

under paragraph (2), the Secretary may award competitive grants to an entity described in subparagraph (B) to support expanded education, outreach, and technical assistance to rural communities and regions.

(B) ENTITY DESCRIBED.—An entity referred to in subparagraph (A) is a nonprofit organization or an institution of higher education that has not less than 3 years of experience providing meaningful transportation technical assistance or advocacy services to rural communities and regions.

(6) EMPLOYEES.—The Secretary shall ensure that not more than 4 full-time equivalent employees are assigned to the Office.

(C) RURAL INVESTMENT COUNCIL.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a Rural Investment Council—

(A) to assist the Secretary in organizing the Office;

(B) to provide guidance to the Office;

(C) to assist the Director in leading the Office; and

(D) to work with the Office to coordinate rural-related and Tribal-related funding programs and assistance among the modal administrations of the Department.

(2) MEMBERSHIP.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Council shall be composed of the following officers of the Department, or their designees:

(i) The Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy.

(ii) The General Counsel.

(iii) The Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Secretary for Budget and Programs.

(iv) The Assistant Secretary for Research and Technology.

(v) The Assistant Secretary for Multimodal Freight.

(vi) The Administrators of—

(I) the Federal Aviation Administration;

(II) the Federal Highway Administration;

(III) the Federal Railroad Administration; and

(IV) the Federal Transit Administration.

(vii) The Executive Director of the Build America Bureau.

(viii) The Assistant Secretary for Governmental Affairs.

(B) CHAIR.—The Under Secretary of Transportation for Policy shall be the Chair of the Council.

(C) ADDITIONAL MEMBERS.—The Secretary or the Chair of the Council may designate additional members to serve on the Council.

(3) ADDITIONAL MODAL INPUT.—To address issues related to safety and transport of rural and Tribal commodities, the Council shall consult with the Administrators (or their designees) of—

(A) the Maritime Administration;

(B) the Great Lakes St. Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation; and

(C) the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

(4) DUTIES.—Members of the Council shall—

(A) participate in all meetings and relevant Council activities and be prepared to share information relevant to rural and Tribal transportation infrastructure projects and issues;

(B) provide guidance and leadership on rural and Tribal transportation infrastructure issues and represent the work of the Council and the Department on those issues to external stakeholders; and

(C) recommend initiatives to the Chair of the Council to consider, establish, and staff any resulting activities or working groups.

(5) MEETINGS.—The Council shall meet bi-monthly.

(6) WORK PRODUCTS AND DELIVERABLES.—The Council may develop work products or deliverables to meet the goals of the Council, including—

(A) an annual report to Congress describing Council activities for the past year and expected activities for the coming year;

(B) any recommendations to enhance the effectiveness of Department discretionary grant programs regarding rural and Tribal infrastructure issues; and

(C) other guides and reports for relevant groups and the public.

(d) RURAL TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY BOARD.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall establish a Rural Transportation Advisory Board to consult with and advise the Office.

(2) MEMBERSHIP.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Advisory Board shall be composed of 15 members, appointed by the Secretary from among individuals with direct experience with rural issues, of whom—

(i) not fewer than 1 shall be a representative from an institution of higher education or extension program;

(ii) not fewer than 1 shall be a representative from an organization promoting business and economic development, such as a chamber of commerce, a local government institution, or a planning organization;

(iii) not fewer than 1 shall be a representative from a financing entity;

(iv) not fewer than 1 shall have experience in health, mobility, or emergency services;

(v) not fewer than 1 shall have experience in transportation safety;

(vi) not fewer than 1 shall have experience with workforce access;

(vii) not fewer than 1 shall have experience with tourism and recreational activities;

(viii) not fewer than 1 shall have—

(I) experience with rural supply chains, such as direct-to-consumer supply chains; and

(II) wholesale distribution experience;

(ix) not fewer than 1 shall have experience in emerging or innovative technologies relating to rural transportation networks;

(x) not fewer than 1 shall have experience in food, nutrition, and grocery access;

(xi) not fewer than 1 shall be actively engaged in agriculture, ranching, or forestry; and

(xii) not fewer than 1 shall have experience with historically underserved regions, as determined by the Secretary.

(B) REQUIREMENT.—The Secretary shall appoint members to the Advisory Board in a manner that ensures, to the maximum extent practicable, that the geographic and economic diversity of rural communities and regions of the United States are represented.

(C) TIMING OF INITIAL APPOINTMENTS.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall appoint the initial members of the Advisory Board.

(D) PERIOD OF APPOINTMENTS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), a member of the Advisory Board shall be appointed for a term of 3 years.

(ii) INITIAL APPOINTMENTS.—Of the members first appointed to the Advisory Board—

(I) 5, as determined by the Secretary, shall be appointed for a term of 3 years;

(II) 5, as determined by the Secretary, shall be appointed for a term of 2 years; and

(III) 5, as determined by the Secretary, shall be appointed for a term of 1 year.

(E) VACANCIES.—Any vacancy on the Advisory Board—

(i) shall not affect the power of the Advisory Board; and

(ii) shall be filled as soon as practicable and in the same manner as the original appointment.

(F) CONSECUTIVE TERMS.—An appointee to the Advisory Board may serve 1 additional, consecutive term if the member is reappointed by the Secretary.

(3) MEETINGS.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Advisory Board shall meet not less than twice per year, as determined by the Secretary.

(B) INITIAL MEETING.—Not later than 180 days after the date on which the initial members of the Advisory Board are appointed under paragraph (2)(C), the Advisory Board shall hold the first meeting of the Advisory Board.

(4) DUTIES.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The Advisory Board shall—

(i) advise the Office on issues related to rural needs relating to Federal transportation programs;

(ii) evaluate and review ongoing research activities relating to rural transportation networks, including new and emerging barriers to economic development and access to investments;

(iii) develop recommendations for any changes to Federal law, regulations, internal Department policies or guidance, or other measures that would eliminate barriers for rural access or improve rural equity in transportation investments;

(iv) examine methods of maximizing the number of opportunities for assistance for rural communities and regions under Federal transportation programs, including expanded outreach and technical assistance;

(v) examine methods of encouraging intergovernmental and local resource cooperation to mitigate duplicative investments in key rural communities and regions and improve the efficiencies in the delivery of Federal transportation programs;

(vi) evaluate other methods of creating new opportunities for rural communities and regions; and

(vii) address any other relevant issues, as the Secretary determines to be appropriate.

(B) REPORTS.—Not later than 1 year after the date on which the initial members of the Advisory Board are appointed under paragraph (2)(C), and every 2 years thereafter through 2026, the Advisory Board shall submit to the Secretary and the relevant committees of Congress a report describing the recommendations developed under subparagraph (A)(iii).

(5) PERSONNEL MATTERS.—

(A) COMPENSATION.—A member of the Advisory Board shall serve without compensation.

(B) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—A member of the Advisory Board shall be allowed travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with section 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

(6) TERMINATION.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subparagraph (B), the Advisory Board shall terminate on the date that is 5 years after the date on which the initial members are appointed under paragraph (2)(C).

(B) EXTENSION.—Before the date on which the Advisory Board terminates, the Secretary may renew the Advisory Board for 1 or more 2-year periods.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$7,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2022 through 2026.

SA 2192. Mr. WICKER submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and

transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in division J, insert the following:

EXPENSES FOR UNITED STATES MERCHANT MARINE ACADEMY INFRASTRUCTURE

SEC. _____. For necessary expenses of activities authorized by law for the United States Merchant Marine Academy, \$611,026,400: *Provided*, That \$526,512,000 shall be provided for construction and contingency purchases, \$53,801,200 for design purchases, and \$30,713,200 for program management purchases regarding United States Merchant Marine Academy infrastructure improvement, which shall be used to recapitalize, maintain, and enhance the infrastructure of the United States Merchant Marine Academy.

SA 2193. Ms. ERNST (for herself and Mr. WICKER) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

Beginning on page 2547, strike line 12 and all that follows through page 2548, line 7, and insert the following:

PROCUREMENT, CONSTRUCTION, IMPROVEMENTS, AND OPERATIONS AND SUPPORT

For an additional amount for "Procurement, Construction, Improvements, and Operations and Support", \$1,229,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2026: *Provided*, That of the funds made available under this heading in this Act—

(1) \$131,500,000 shall be for housing, family support, safety, and training facilities, as described in the Coast Guard Fiscal Year 2022 Unfunded Priorities List submitted to Congress on June 29, 2021;

(2) \$158,000,000 shall be for shore construction addressing facility deficiencies, as described in the Coast Guard Fiscal Year 2022 Unfunded Priorities List submitted to Congress on June 29, 2021;

(3) \$19,500,000 shall be for shore construction supporting operational assets and maritime commerce, as described in the Coast Guard Fiscal Year 2022 Unfunded Priorities List submitted to Congress on June 29, 2021;

(4) \$120,000,000 shall be for construction and improvement of childcare development centers; and

(5) \$800,000,000 shall be for the remaining items on the Coast Guard Fiscal Year 2022 Unfunded Priorities List submitted to Congress on June 29, 2021 that are not described in paragraphs (1), (2), or (3):

On page 2697, strike lines 9 through 23 and insert the following:

For an additional amount for "Natural Gas Distribution Infrastructure Safety and Modernization Grant Program", \$200,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2032 for the Secretary of Transportation to make competitive grants for the modernization of natural gas distribution pipelines: *Provided*, That \$40,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2032, shall be made available for fiscal year 2022, \$40,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2033, shall be made available for fiscal year 2023, \$40,000,000, to remain available until Sep-

tember 30, 2034, shall be made available for fiscal year 2024, \$40,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2035, shall be made available for fiscal year 2025, and \$40,000,000, to remain available until September 30, 2036, shall be made available for fiscal

SA 2194. Ms. ERNST submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place, insert the following:

SEC. _____. METAL COMPOSITION OF CERTAIN COINS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 5112(b) of title 31, United States Code, is amended—

- (1) by inserting "(1)" after "(b)"; and
- (2) by adding at the end the following:

"(2) Notwithstanding paragraph (1), the Secretary may prescribe a composition of materials in, and a construction of, the half dollar, quarter dollar, dime, or 5-cent coin that varies from the composition and construction required under that paragraph with respect to the coin (including by using different metals in the alloy for the coin than those required under that paragraph) if that action by the Secretary—

"(A) reduces the overall cost of minting the coin; and

"(B) does not affect—

"(i) the diameter and weight of the coin specified under subsection (a); or

"(ii) the functionality of the coin, including the electromagnetic signature with respect to the acceptance of the coin."

(b) TRANSFERS OF SAVINGS TO THE HIGHWAY TRUST FUND.—Section 9503(b) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by inserting after paragraph (2) the following new paragraph:

"(3) SAVINGS FROM METAL COMPOSITION OF COINS.—There are hereby appropriated to the Highway Trust Fund amounts equivalent to cost savings achieved as a result of alteration in the composition or construction of coins pursuant to section 5112(b)(2) of title 31, United States Code."

SA 2195. Ms. ERNST submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the appropriate place in division I, insert the following:

SEC. _____. TERMINATION OF TAXPAYER FINANCING OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION CAMPAIGNS.

(a) TERMINATION OF DESIGNATION OF INCOME TAX PAYMENTS.—Section 6096 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(d) TERMINATION.—This section shall not apply to taxable years beginning after December 31, 2020."

(b) TERMINATION OF FUND AND ACCOUNT.—

(1) TERMINATION OF PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN FUND.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—Chapter 95 of subtitle H of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 9013. TERMINATION.

"The provisions of this chapter shall not apply with respect to any Presidential election (or any Presidential nominating convention) after the date of the enactment of this section, or to any candidate in such an election."

(B) TRANSFER OF REMAINING FUNDS.—

(i) IN GENERAL.—Section 9006 of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:

"(d) TRANSFER OF FUNDS REMAINING AFTER TERMINATION.—The Secretary shall transfer the amounts in the fund as of the date of the enactment of this subsection to the Highway Trust Fund."

(ii) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 9503(f) of such Code, as amended by section 80103, is amended by redesignating paragraph (12) as paragraph (13) and by inserting after paragraph (11) the following new paragraph:

"(12) TRANSFER OF AMOUNTS FROM PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION CAMPAIGN FUND.—There is hereby transferred to the Highway Trust Fund the amounts described in section 9006(d)."

(2) TERMINATION OF ACCOUNT.—Chapter 96 of subtitle H of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 9043. TERMINATION.

"The provisions of this chapter shall not apply to any candidate with respect to any Presidential election after the date of the enactment of this section."

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(1) The table of sections for chapter 95 of subtitle H of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

"Sec. 9013. Termination."

(2) The table of sections for chapter 96 of subtitle H of such Code is amended by adding at the end the following new item:

"Sec. 9043. Termination."

SA 2196. Mr. BARRASSO submitted an amendment intended to be proposed to amendment SA 2137 proposed by Mr. SCHUMER (for Ms. SINEMA (for herself, Mr. PORTMAN, Mr. MANCHIN, Mr. CASSIDY, Mrs. SHAHEEN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. TESTER, Ms. MURKOWSKI, Mr. WARNER, and Mr. ROMNEY)) to the bill H.R. 3684, to authorize funds for Federal-aid highways, highway safety programs, and transit programs, and for other purposes; which was ordered to lie on the table; as follows:

At the end of subtitle E of title III of division D, add the following:

SEC. 4034 . AMERICAN CRITICAL MINERAL INDEPENDENCE.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

(1) BYPRODUCT.—The term "byproduct" has the meaning given the term in section 7002(a) of the Energy Act of 2020 (30 U.S.C. 1606(a)).

(2) CRITICAL MINERAL.—The term "critical mineral" has the meaning given the term in section 7002(a) of the Energy Act of 2020 (30 U.S.C. 1606(a)), except that the term shall not exclude materials described in paragraph (3)(B)(iii) of that section.

(3) CRITICAL MINERAL PROJECT.—The term "critical mineral project" means a project—

(A) located on—

(i) a mining claim, millsite claim, or tunnel site claim for any locatable mineral;

(ii) land open to mineral entry; or

(iii) a Federal mineral lease; and

(B) for the purpose of producing a critical mineral, including—